

**What is claimed is:**

1. A method for increasing endogenous gamma globin ( $\gamma$ -globin) in a subject, the method comprising administering to the subject an agent which increases expression of the gene encoding  $\gamma$ -globin.
2. The method of claim 1, wherein the agent increases expression of the gene encoding  $\gamma$ -globin by increasing the stability or activity of an alpha subunit of hypoxia inducible factor (HIF $\alpha$ ).
3. The method of claim 2, wherein the agent increases stability or activity of HIF $\alpha$  by inhibiting hydroxylation of HIF $\alpha$ .
4. The method of claim 2, wherein HIF $\alpha$  is selected from the group consisting of HIF-1 $\alpha$ , HIF-2 $\alpha$ , HIF-3 $\alpha$ , and any fragment thereof.
5. The method of claim 2, wherein HIF $\alpha$  is endogenous to the subject.
6. The method of claim 1, wherein the agent increases expression of the gene encoding  $\gamma$ -globin by inhibiting 2-oxoglutarate dioxygenase enzyme activity.
7. The method of claim 6, wherein the 2-oxoglutarate dioxygenase enzyme is selected from the group consisting of EGLN1, EGLN2, EGLN3, PHD4, FIH-1, and any subunit or fragment thereof.
8. The method of claim 1, wherein the agent increases expression of the gene encoding  $\gamma$ -globin by inhibiting HIF hydroxylase enzyme activity.
9. The method of claim 8, wherein the HIF hydroxylase enzyme is selected from the group consisting of EGLN1, EGLN2, EGLN3, FIH-1, and any subunit or fragment thereof.
10. A method for increasing the level of fetal hemoglobin in a subject, the method comprising administering to the subject an agent which increases expression of the gene encoding  $\gamma$ -globin.
11. A method for treating a disorder associated with abnormal hemoglobin in a subject, the method comprising increasing the level of fetal hemoglobin in the subject.

12. The method of claim 11, wherein abnormal hemoglobin comprises an alteration in the level, structural integrity, or activity of adult  $\beta$ -globin.
13. The method of claim 11, wherein the disorder is selected from the group consisting of  $\beta$  thalassemias and sickle cell syndromes.
14. The method of claim 13, wherein the  $\beta$ -thalassemia is selected from  $\beta^0$ - and  $\beta^+$ -thalassemia.
15. The method of claim 13, wherein the sickle cell syndrome is selected from sickle trait, sickle  $\beta$  thalassemia, and sickle cell anemia.
16. A method for increasing the proportion of fetal hemoglobin relative to non-fetal hemoglobin produced by a cell or population of cells, the method comprising administering to the cell or population of cells an agent which increases expression of the gene encoding  $\gamma$ -globin.
17. A method for treating or pretreating a subject infected with or at risk for being infected with a species of *Plasmodium*, the method comprising increasing fetal hemoglobin level in the subject.
18. The method of claim 17, wherein the species of *Plasmodium* is *Plasmodium falciparum*.
19. The method of claim 11, wherein the agent is administered in combination with a second therapeutic agent.
20. The method of claim 19, wherein the second therapeutic agent is selected from the group consisting of hydroxyurea, butyrate analogs, and 5-azacytidine.
21. The method of claim 1, wherein the agent is administered *in vivo*.
22. The method of claim 1, wherein the agent is administered *ex vivo*.
23. The method of claim 1, wherein the subject is a primate.
24. The method of claim 1, wherein the subject is a human.

25. The method of claim 1, wherein the subject is a cell.
26. The method of claim 25, wherein the cell is derived from bone marrow.
27. The method of claim 25, wherein the cell is selected from the group consisting of hematopoietic stem cells and blast-forming unit erythroid (BFU-E) cells.
28. A method for increasing the level of fetal hemoglobin in a subject, the method comprising:
  - (a) administering to a population of cells an agent which increases expression of the gene encoding  $\gamma$ -globin; and
  - (b) transfusing the  $\gamma$ -globin expressing cells into the subject.
29. The method of claim 28, wherein the subject has a disorder associated with abnormal hemoglobin.
30. The method of claim 29, wherein abnormal hemoglobin comprises an alteration in the level, structural integrity, or activity of adult  $\beta$ -globin.
31. The method of claim 29, wherein the disorder is selected from the group consisting of  $\beta$  thalassemias and sickle cell syndromes.
32. The method of claim 31, wherein the  $\beta$ -thalassemia is selected from  $\beta^0$ - and  $\beta^+$ -thalassemia.
33. The method of claim 31, wherein the sickle cell syndrome is selected from sickle trait, sickle  $\beta$  thalassemia, and sickle cell anemia.
34. The method of claim 28, wherein the subject is infected with a species of Plasmodium.
35. The method of claim 34, wherein the species of Plasmodium is *Plasmodium falciparum*.
36. The method of claim 28, wherein the cells are selected from the group consisting of hematopoietic stem cells, blast-forming unit erythroid (BFU-E) cells, and bone marrow cells.

37. A medicament comprising an agent which increases expression of the gene encoding  $\gamma$ -globin for use in increasing fetal hemoglobin level in a subject.
38. The medicament of claim 37, wherein the agent increases expression of the gene encoding  $\gamma$ -globin by increasing the stability or activity of HIF $\alpha$ .
39. Use of the medicament of claim 37 for treating a disorder associated with abnormal hemoglobin in a subject.
40. The use of claim 39, wherein abnormal hemoglobin comprises an alteration in the amount, structural integrity, or function of adult  $\beta$ -globin.
41. The use of claim 39, wherein the disorder is selected from the group consisting of  $\beta$  thalassemias and sickle cell syndromes.
42. The use of claim 41, wherein the  $\beta$ -thalassemia is selected from  $\beta^0$ - and  $\beta^+$ -thalassemia.
43. The use of claim 41, wherein the sickle cell syndrome is selected from sickle trait, sickle  $\beta$  thalassemia, and sickle cell anemia.
44. Use of the medicament of claim 37 for treating or pretreating a subject infected with or at risk for being infected with a species of Plasmodium.
45. The use of claim 44, wherein the species of Plasmodium is *Plasmodium falciparum*.
46. The medicament of claim 37, wherein the medicament additionally comprises a second therapeutic agent.
47. The medicament of claim 46, wherein the second therapeutic agent is selected from the group consisting of hydroxyurea, butyrate analogs, and 5-azacytidine.